

Christmas
Parade Grand
Marshal



INSIDE

Levi Daniels kills
his first deer



INSIDE

Elba High Band
presents
Christmas
Concert



The Elba Clipper

Volume 124, Number 29 50 Cents Elba, Alabama Thursday, December 10, 2020 1 Section, 10 Pages Plus 1 Adv Insert

Elba City Schools looking at paving and HVAC projects for bond monies awarded

During a recent Elba City Schools board meeting, Superintendent Chris Moseley said the school system would be receiving \$1,139,062 from a bond issue coming down to the local systems from the state. He said these bond monies would help the school system to get some much-needed paving projects done, as well as, help to purchase some needed HVAC [heating, ventilation, and air conditioning] systems for the schools. "Paving and HVAC units will be our main two priorities with these funds," Moseley said. "Obviously, the majority of those funds will be used on the paving projects, but we hope to get some HVAC units in as well." He said a major HVAC system in the auditorium in the high school had been running on just one unit

since he came to Elba in 2015 as principal of the high school. Therefore, he said it would be great to be able to get the units updated for the auditorium.

Moseley said bond monies can be used on improvements for the schools, which he said basically includes things on the system's capital improvements plan.

"We are to a point that if we don't get some paving and HVAC units updated, our capital plan is always going to be behind," Moseley said. "That is why we are looking at getting these projects done with these funds."

On another note, the superintendent said via a remote learning device grant from CRF [Coronavirus Relief Funds] funding, the system would be adding

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SANTA COMES TO TOWN...As is tradition in Elba, the jolly 'ole Saint Nick, himself, came to town to participate in the annual Christmas Parade. Each year, Santa is ushered into Elba atop an Elba fire truck as he waves to the crowd and helps the volunteer firemen throw candy to all the little ones. Santa did not let the COVID-19 pandemic keep him from his annual visit to the county seat of Coffee County, and he was greeted by cheers from folds of all ages. Upon making it to Elba's downtown square, several folks had cans of confetti ready, and added to the excitement of Santa's arrival by showering him with the confetti - bringing even louder cheers and laughter from the crowd. After the always exciting Christmas Parade, Elba's Mayor Pro Tem Jane Brunson took on the duty this year of officially lighting Elba's Christmas Tree, located on the Clements Lot at the corner of Court and Davis streets on the downtown square. Brunson was filling in for Mayor Tom Maddox as he is currently quarantined from a close-contact exposure to the coronavirus. Reports are, however, that Mayor Maddox is doing well, and he and his wife, Alice, did make an appearance in Monday night's Christmas parade as they rode in a vehicle with all windows up, joyfully waving to the citizens from their socially distanced seats. Parade float winners announced included: First Place - First Baptist Church; Second Place - Westside Baptist Church; and Third Place - Elba Nursing and Rehabilitation Center.

Alabama reviews 14-day home quarantine for COVID-19 contacts

The Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH) is working to make changes in processes to allow for a reduced quarantine period for persons who may have been exposed to COVID-19.

Only the Alabama State Health Officer has the authority to establish state quarantine and isolation requirements. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has recommended two additional options for quarantine and asked states to review their respective COVID-19 situations.

In its commitment to protect Alabamians during this pandemic, ADPH is studying the information and supporting documenta-

tion to make recommendations specific to Alabama. Record high numbers of new COVID-19 cases, deaths, and hospitalizations occurred in Alabama last week, requiring an ongoing review of what the impact of changes in home quarantine requirements could have in the state.

According to CDC, 14 days remains the optimal time for home quarantine, as this time frame covers the broad range of the incubation period for COVID-19. Exercising options for home quarantine of less than 14 days carries attendant risks of disease, especially

in Alabama's environment of widespread community transmission, high overall percent positivity, and need to preserve testing capacity for symptomatic and high-risk individuals.

ADPH is working to make the changes needed to allow the release of persons from quarantine at 10 days under certain conditions identified in the CDC's recommendations. CDC's updated guidance requires additional conditions for home quarantine of 10 days which include no COVID-related symptoms, daily self-monitoring for symptoms, and consistent

social distancing and mask wearing. This will require ADPH to make changes to current processes which should be finalized before Friday, Dec. 11.

Even if excused from 14-day quarantine, persons must use extreme caution regarding monitoring for symptoms for the full two weeks and practice mitigation strategies within and beyond the quarantine period. Home quarantine for residents of long-term care and correctional facilities will not change from the current 14-day requirement.

State Health Officer Dr. Scott Harris said, "While we would like to be able to decrease the home quarantine time frame to seven days for persons who may have been exposed to COVID-19, this is not possible at this time due to a number of reasons including our high case numbers and the disparity in testing resources among different parts of our state. We should not knowingly increase the percentage of possibly infectious asymptomatic persons out and about. Even though there is hope that our first doses of COVID-19 vaccine may arrive in the next two weeks, we are still months away from having enough vaccine to protect everyone. So, ADPH continues to encourage every Alabamian to stay home when possible, and to practice social distancing and wear masks when they must be out. Please protect the most vulnerable people in our state by doing the right things."

For additional information concerning the CDC's quarantine guidance, go to <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/quarantine.html>

Upcoming DAV meetings announced

The December 2020 meeting for the DAV Wiregrass Chapter 99, located in New Brockton, Ala., will be Thursday Dec. 17, at 6 p.m. at the New Brockton Senior Center building.

All planning to attend are asked to bring a dish. This will be the chapters annual Christmas gathering.

All military, military veteran, and local residents are

invited. The January 2021 meeting for the DAV Wiregrass Chapter 99 will be Thursday, Jan. 28, 2021 at 6 p.m., again at the New Brockton Senior Center building.

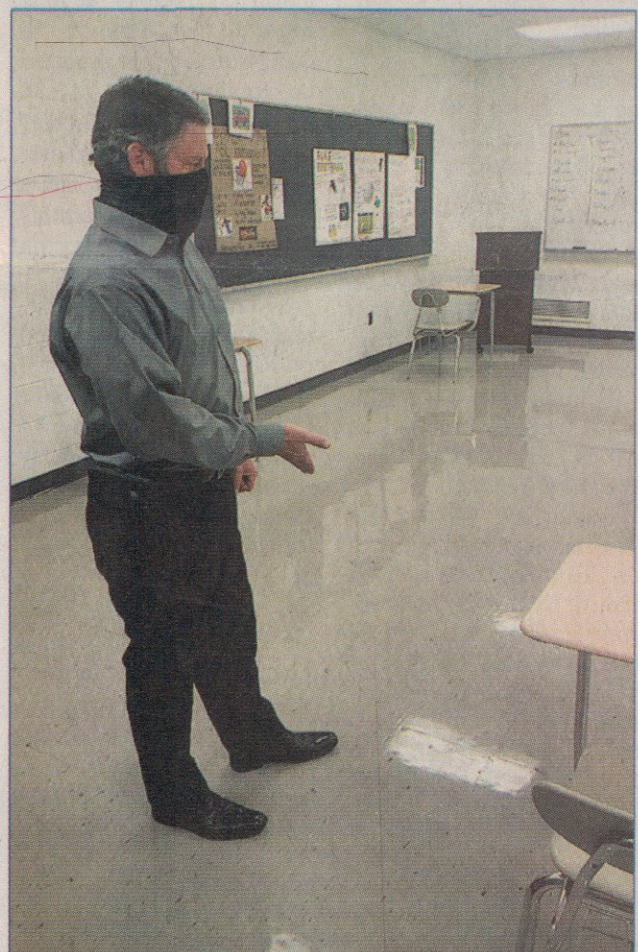
For information on these upcoming meetings or more information about DAV, contact Charles Lobbell at 334-718-5707 or Mike Doran at 334-406-6700.

Area Happenings

THE ELBA CITY COUNCIL WILL CONDUCT ITS TWO REGULAR MEETINGS for the month of December on the night of Monday, Dec. 14, at Elba City Hall. The first meeting will begin at 5:30 p.m. The second meeting will begin immediately after the first meeting is adjourned.

THE ELBA WATER & ELECTRIC BOARD WILL HOLD ITS DECEMBER MEETING on Monday, Dec. 14, following the council meetings.

THE CITY OF ELBA OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED Thursday, Dec. 24, and Friday, Dec. 25, in observance of Christmas. Stand-by crews will be on call to assist customers with any utility emergencies. To report an utility emergency during this time, call the Elba Police Department at (334) 897-2555. The garbage truck will run its normal schedule.



ELBA SCHOOLS SUPERINTENDENT GAVE A TOUR recently to board members and others of the school facilities pointing out several upgrades that had been made the past year or so at the schools, from the painting of walls to the removal of old carpet with replacement with tile flooring. Moseley said these type upgrades are essential for the school buildings and go a long way in keeping the facilities up-to-par for students and faculty. Above, Moseley is showing new tile floors in some high school classrooms that replaced the old carpet flooring that was initially installed when the schools were built in the early 90s.



CHRISTMAS PARADE FUN...The Elba Queens, along with others from the local area, have enjoyed participating the past couple of weeks in several Christmas parades. On Monday night of this week, the queens were in Elba. Among those participating in Elba's parade including community queens from Elba, Zion Chapel, New Brockton, Kinston, Coffee County, and more. Above, Miss Elba Kate Hudson, Little Miss Elba Piper Astemborski, and Teen Miss Elba Danielle Tidwell were all smiles Monday night to be a part of their hometown Christmas celebration! For more pictures from this year's Elba Christmas Parade, turn to pages 5 and 10 of today's paper.

EDITORIAL

BRAINSTORMS

With Ferrin Cox

"I fear all we have done is to awaken a sleeping giant and fill him with a terrible resolve." - Japanese Admiral Isoroku Yamamoto (12/7/1942)

Pro-Trump lawyer L. Lin Wood last week called for Georgia Republicans to boycott the January Senate runoff election! This woman was, for a while, on the Trump legal team challenging the election results in several states and then the campaign folks said she wasn't on the team any more. However, she is still loudly quarreling about the election results, issuing all sorts of complaints and threats, etc., even at times embarrassing the Trump insiders. Yet her call for boycotting the upcoming runoff vote is probably a comment she would (or should) wish had not been uttered. Why? Because if Republicans don't turn out in mass for this vote, they will be conceding the election to the Democrats! That is something thinking Republicans do-not-want, as it will give the Democrats control of the U. S. Senate. They already control the House of Representatives. Adding the Senate to that would mean they are in control - period.

Pearl Harbor . . . Monday, December 7th was the anniversary of the 1941 Japanese attack that officially claimed the lives of 2403 American citizens and was the opening shot of WWII, leading President Roosevelt to call it "A day that will live in infamy" and Congress to declare war on Japan. Even though that was almost 80 years ago, we regret that the event, and the related deaths, are rarely acknowledged by present day Americans. If you ask around most any community, you will more than likely find someone who lost a relative that Sunday morning. For sure you can in Elba, AL.

Alabama is not the most abused state for identify theft, but also is not the least likely victim of this variety of con artist. We were afraid to read the whole list but saw the top ten group and the bottom ten group and Alabama was not in either. Our friends and neighbors in both Florida (#1) and Georgia (#8) made the 'Most Vulnerable States' list that was published by the website WalletHub.

The government orders dealing with renters not being evicted for not paying their house rent is about to expire. Those orders have wrecked the lives of many property owners with mortgages to pay and no rent income. Now it is about to wreck those renters who were not forced out of their house or apartment for non-payment of rent. A Wall Street economist, Mark Zandi is quoted as estimating that instantly \$70 Billion (that is with a capital B) of back rent and utilities will become due. Due, yes but payable?? These folks could not pay one month's rent or utilities and suddenly they owe \$70 billion!!! Washington made most of those rules and we think Washington now has a moral obligation to solve the dilemma by helping those renters facing eviction and the unpaid landlords who are facing foreclosures.

President-elect Joe Biden will nominate retired four-star Army general Lloyd J. Austin, and Mobile, AL native to be secretary of defense. Of course he will have to be confirmed by the U. S. Senate but his career record seems squeaky clean. Austin is a West Point graduate, holds a Masters in education from Auburn University and is a member of the Auburn University Board of Trustees.

Be Safe, Wear your Face Mask, Social Distance and WASH your Hands - again, again and again.

Upcoming at Dothan's Landmark Park

Christmas Photos

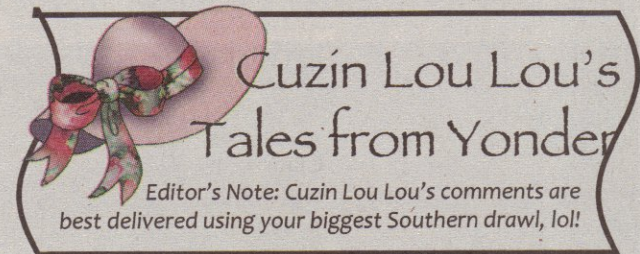
Saturday, December 12, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Take advantage of Landmark Park's scenic backdrop for your family holiday photos. David Baker will have his horse-drawn sleigh parked in front of the Waddell House for pictures. Bring your own camera, first come first served. Free with paid gate admission (\$4 for adults, \$3 for kids, free for park members and children 2 and under).

Victorian Christmas

December 13, 1 p.m.-4 p.m.

Holiday open house with Christmas music, a visit with Santa and more. Free admission, canned goods will be collected for the Food Bank. Sponsored by WalMart.



Cuzin Lou Lou was reminiscing recently as she was decorating at home for Christmas. She loves this time of year, seeing all the cheer that decorations bring.

Lou Lou fondly recalled that her love for Christmas decorating goes back into her youth when Papa and Mama would take Lou Lou and Sister for rides during the holidays just so they could see all the houses decorated for the season. Of course, Papa and Mama instilled in Lou Lou and Sister that Christmas is first and foremost about the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ, and that it should never be overshadowed by the 'magical' celebrations of the holiday season...they wanted the family to share in the religious and magical parts of the holiday.

Today, Lou Lou still feels like that kid she remembers when it comes to the Christmas season! She and Sister often load up in the car and take a ride around Yonder or head over to a nearby city and enjoy seeing all the cheer the holiday bring through decorations.

As we all know, this year has been quite trying on us all with the COVID-19 pandemic, etc., and Lou Lou hopes the holidays will be filled with more cheer than ever this season.

Let's all put up just a few outdoor decorations to accompany our indoor tree and décor. Let's give today's little girl or boy something to enjoy as his/her mom and dad drive them around so they too can delight in the magic of snowmen,

candy canes, wreaths, and flashing lights!

What a wonderful holiday it would be to have cars slowly driving through the neighborhoods with little heads hanging by the window, and lots of "oohs and ahhs" echoing in the night.

It's really a simple thing to do, really, and it might just be the medicine we all need to forget, for just a season, that 2020 has not been our favorite of years thanks mostly to a virus called COVID.

Brighten the night with lights, fill the air with music, and let's all enjoy a little extra cheer this Christmas season while also remembering that one night in Bethlehem a baby was born in a manger...a baby that would save us all [even from COVID].

Until next time...Keep Smiling and God Bless.

P.S. - Sister turns another year older this Sunday, Dec. 13th! If you see her, be sure to wish her a Happy, Happy Birthday!! Lou Lou will leave the number out, but let's just say - Sister's 'spring chicken' days are definitely gone! :) She's still a good egg, though!!

Attend the
Church of Your
Choice This
and Every
Sunday

Elba Police Report

The Elba Police Department, between Tuesday, Dec. 1, 2020, and Monday, Dec. 7, 2020, conducted the following activity:

Tuesday, Dec. 1 - Suspicious circumstances reported at 654 Reynolds Ave (12:10 a.m.); Verbal altercation reported at 878 Claxton Ave N (5:09 a.m.); Trespassing reported at 1115 Guyton St (11:21 a.m.); Suspicious vehicle reported at 402 Collier St (1:18 p.m.); Suspicious vehicle reported on Davis St E (9:05 p.m.); Shots fired reported at 14632 Hwy 84 (9:43 p.m.); Suspicious circumstances reported on Yelverton Ave (10:52 p.m.); Suspicious vehicle reported at 469 Claxton Ave N (11:07 p.m.). There were three traffic stops reported in this date with one resulting in an arrest, and two others receiving verbal warnings.

Wednesday, Dec. 2 - Animal complaint reported on Reese Ave (9:03 a.m.); Suspicious circumstances reported at 1272 Ann St (9:30 a.m.); Traffic accident reported at 429 Claxton Ave N (10:18 p.m.); Suspicious circumstances reported at 1022 Guyton St (11:44 a.m.); Suspicious circumstances reported at County Roads 404 and 407 (9:48 p.m.). There were three traffic stops on this date resulting in one citation issued, one verbal warning, and one no action.

Thursday, Dec. 3 - Suspicious vehicle reported on Larkin Rd (5:18 p.m.); Disturbance reported at 501 Larkin Rd (8:06 p.m.); Suspicious person reported at 1426 Hickman Ave (10:43 p.m.). There were eight traffic stops on this date resulting in four citations issued, and four verbal warnings.

Friday, Dec. 4 - Suspicious person reported at 610 N Troy Rd (2:14 a.m.); Burglary reported at 475 Williams Ave (4:14 a.m.); Traffic accident reported on Highland Dr (12:37 p.m.); Livestock in roadway reported on Hwy 84 (12:56 p.m.); Suspicious vehicle reported on Putnam St (1:39 p.m.); Suspicious person reported at Evergreen Cemetery (1:51

p.m.); Animal complaint reported at 1007 Forest Ave (3:38 p.m.); Criminal mischief reported at 234 Old Samson Rd. (3:44 p.m.); Traffic accident reported on Hwy 84 (5:27 p.m.); Domestic complaint reported at 409 Adkinson Ave (5:42 p.m.); Verbal altercation reported at 1113 Oak Ave (7:37 p.m.). There were six traffic stops reported on this date resulting in one citation issued, one arrest made, three verbal warnings, and one report completed.

Saturday, Dec. 5 - Criminal mischief reported at 997 Winston Ave (8:18 a.m.); Animal complaint reported at 1294 Ann St (12:56 p.m.); Domestic complaint reported at 664 Reynolds Ave (1:57 p.m.); Traffic accident reported on Hickman Ave (2:53 p.m.); Criminal mischief reported at 1022 Guyton St (5:51 p.m.); Suspicious vehicle reported on Taylor Mill Rd (7:18 p.m.); Suspicious person reported at 1426 Hickman Ave (8:51 p.m.); Suspicious person reported at 1007 Payne St (11:17 p.m.). There were nine traffic stops on this date resulting in five verbal warnings, and four no action taken.

Sunday, Dec. 6 - Suspicious person reported at 990 Hwy 203 (12:40 a.m.); Prowler reported in area of Troy Hwy (1:38 a.m.); Suspicious vehicle reported on Putnam St (8:57 a.m.); Fight reported on Reynolds Ave (11:34 a.m.); Criminal mischief reported at 219 Old Samson Rd (5:05 p.m.). There was one traffic stop on this date resulting in a citation issued.

Monday, Dec. 7 - Animal complaint reported on Reese Ave (9:02 a.m.); Burglary reported at 1477 Country Club Way (1:47 p.m.); Theft of property reported at Evergreen Cemetery (2:15 p.m.); Runaway juvenile reported on Hwy 84 (7:35 p.m.); Suspicious person reported on Hwy 84 (8:43 p.m.). There were four traffic stops on this date resulting in three citations issued and one verbal warning.

Congratulations!

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Coffee County & Surrounding Counties - \$21 per year
6 Months - \$11, including city & state tax
Alabama Counties - \$24 per year - including tax
6 months - \$13
Outside Alabama - \$27 per year - 6 months - \$15

Increase in ALEA Troopers equated to less holiday traffic fatalities over Thanksgiving

Troopers within the Alabama Law Enforcement Agency's (ALEA) Highway Patrol Division saw nearly a 30 percent decrease in overall traffic fatalities during the extended 2020 Thanksgiving travel period. ALEA Troopers investigated only eight traffic-related deaths as compared to 11 during the same holiday travel period in 2019.

ALEA's Secretary Hal Taylor said Troopers are truly committed to saving lives, particularly during popular holiday travel periods such as Thanksgiving. "Investigating three fewer traffic deaths this past weekend is certainly an achievement, however, we are continuously striving to reach the point to where we celebrate a holiday weekend without any loss of life. It is ALEA's mission to ensure everyone makes it home alive and well. Through our campaigns, initiatives and proactive patrolling, we believe this goal will soon become a reality."

This year's Thanksgiving travel period began at 12:01 a.m. Wednesday, Nov. 25, and ended at midnight Sunday, Nov. 29. The fatal traffic crashes occurred in Colbert, Coosa, Jefferson, Morgan, Russell, Tuscaloosa and Walker counties. One pedestrian and a motorcyclist were among the eight individuals

killed. Of the six who were killed while traveling in vehicles equipped with seat belts, three were not wearing them at the time of the crash.

During the past two major holiday travel periods, Labor Day and Thanksgiving, ALEA Troopers have seen a decrease in traffic-related deaths. "We saw over a 60 percent decrease in traffic fatalities over Labor Day weekend and with nearly a 30 percent decrease during Thanksgiving, we are hoping to see that trend continue with more Troopers on Alabama roadways," Secretary Taylor said.

Thanks to the continued support from Governor Kay Ivey and the legislature, ALEA has hired 118 Troopers since Jan. 1. The agency graduated one of the largest classes in recent history on Nov. 4, adding 52 new ALEA Troopers throughout the state.

Secretary Taylor said, "We greatly value the assistance from citizens and other motorists who work with ALEA to make our roadways safer. We ask everyone to continue to help us promote traffic safety in a joint effort to prevent crashes, injuries and fatalities throughout the remainder of the holiday season. Let's all work together toward a holiday season with zero traffic-related deaths."

Train for a career without a diploma

LBW Community College has updated the Ability to Benefit requirements to allow an individual without a high school diploma or GED to enroll in a qualifying degree or certificate program.

"This change in LBW's policy will not only benefit those who qualify but will also increase the population who holds industry-recognized credentials; therefore, moving toward an increase in our region's labor force participation rate," said LBWCC President, Dr. Brock Kelley.

Ability to Benefit details include:

- Students who do not have a high school diploma or GED
- Be dually enrolled in our Adult Ed program and a CTE program
- Career and technical education programs that currently qualify:
 - ~ Advanced EMT
 - ~ Emergency Medical Basic
 - ~ Emergency Medical Associate Degree
 - ~ Welding
 - ~ Associate Degree of Nursing
 - ~ Automotive Mechanics
 - ~ Computer Science
 - ~ Diagnostic Medical Sonography
 - ~ Diesel and Heavy Equipment
 - ~ Industrial Electronics
 - ~ Office Administration
- Must take the Accuplacer Ability to Benefit test and score Reading Test (233), Writing Test (235), Arithmetic Test (230)

"Ultimately, our goal is to help our students gain technical skills, giving them an opportunity to earn sus-

tainable wages within our region," stated Kelley.

Students who meet the Ability to Benefit requirements can apply for Federal Pell Grant and Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) tuition assistance.

The LBWCC Adult Education and Workforce Development office is available to help students register for a career pathway program and enroll in courses.

Anyone interested in enrolling can contact Instructional Coordinator, Kelsi Scruggs at (334) 881-2231 orksruggs@lbwcc.edu.

Laken McBride named to Troy University Provost's List

Laken McBride of Elba, Ala., has been named to the Provost's List at Troy University for Term 1 of the 2020/2021 academic year.

The Provost's List honors full-time undergraduate students who are registered for 12 semester hours and who have a grade point average of at least 3.65.

Term 1 includes students at TROY's campuses in Dothan, Phenix City and Montgomery, Ala., along with teaching sites outside of Alabama and online.



Obituaries

Death notices updated regularly on our website at <www.elba-clipper.com>

JAMES R. BUSH

Mr. James R. Bush, an Army Veteran, age 86, of Tallahassee, Fla., died Saturday, December 5, 2020, at Capitol Regional Medical Center in Tallahassee.

Funeral services were held Dec. 9, 2020 from the Chapel of Hayes Funeral Home in Elba, Ala. at 2 p.m. Burial followed in the Harmony Baptist Church cemetery under the direction of Hayes Funeral Home. Flowers were accepted; or those who wish to make memorial contributions are asked to do so to: Big Bend Hospice Foundation, c/o 1723 Mahan Center Blvd., Tallahassee, Florida 32308.

Survivors include his wife: Lida Mary Crosby Bush, Tallahassee; sons: Mike (Louise) Bush, Frederick, Md., and Bruce (Jennifer) Bush, Huntsville, Ala.; along with a brother: Lewis (Ruth) Bush, Pensacola, Fla.; his grandchildren: Mandy Bush, Durham, N.C., Brad (Courtney) Bush, Frederick, Md., Adrian (Kevin) Alexander, Trussville, Ala., Johnathan (Danielle) Bush, Madison, Ala., and Charlie Crosby, Scott J. Crosby, Kyndall Rogers Estes, Johnathan Crosby, and Julia Crosby, all of Tallahassee; great-grandchildren: Addy Alexander and Charlotte Alexander, both of Trussville, Jonah Bush of Madison, Daniel Bush of Frederick, and Mackenzie, Jemma, and Lucas Crosby of Tallahassee.

IDA JEAN SPURLIN

Mrs. Ida Jean Spurlin, age 78, of Elba, Ala., died Sunday, December 6, 2020, at her home.

Graveside services were held Dec. 8, 2020 at the New Haven Baptist Church Cemetery with Rev. Ken Wilson officiating. Burial followed under the direction of Hayes Funeral Home. Serving as pallbearers for her service - Kyle, Jep, and John Dubose, along with Barney McCrummen, Joseph Parrish, and Michael Spurlin.

Mrs. Spurlin was preceded in death by her parents, Ollie Belle and Eugene Farris; by her husband, Joe Spurlin; her son, Bruce Parrish; and by her sister, Glenda Weeks.

Survivors include her son: Byron Parrish; sister: Beth (Lamar) Henderson;

brother: Dawson (Frankie) Farris; and sisters-in-law: Patsy Hines and Gin Spurlin, all of Elba; her granddaughter: Courtney (Barney) McCrummen, Kinston, Ala.; grandsons: Joseph (Callie) Parrish, Elba, and Michael (Jacy) Spurlin, Brantley, Ala.; step-son: Shane Spurlin, Millbrook, Ala.; step-daughter: Lana (Billy) Chandler, Birmingham, Ala.; son-in-law and daughter-in-law: Dennis and Catina Manning; great-grandchildren: Ollie-Mae and Mary-Heath McCrummen, Landry Kate and Beau Spurlin, and Clara Belle Parrish; along with numerous nieces and nephews.

ALMA E. SPINKS

Mrs. Alma E. Spinks, age 101, a resident of the Enterprise Health & Rehabilitation Center, Enterprise, Ala., died Sunday, December 6, 2020, due to a complication from the COVID-19 virus.

Graveside services were held Dec. 8, 2020 at Evergreen Cemetery in Elba, Ala., with Rev. Paul Lett officiating. Burial followed under the direction of Hayes Funeral Home.

Mrs. Spinks was preceded in death by her husband, Bud Spinks; parents, Martha and Kennie Washington Adkison; sons, Michael and Harold Spinks; a grandson, Jeff Barrett; and her siblings, Hilma Cody Stewart, Jewell A. Cook, Dixie Mills, Lois Ware, and Wilbur Adkison.

Survivors include her daughters: Nell Smith (William Tuttle), Clay-hatchee, Ala., Ellen Barrett (Pete), Dothan, Ala.; along with nine grandchildren, numerous great-grandchildren, and great great-grandchildren.

NATALIE JONES KING

Mrs. Natalie Jones King, age 79, died Sunday, Dec. 6, 2020, after a brief battle with cancer.

A lifelong educator, Natalie spent her life teaching: as an English teacher in public schools throughout Alabama, as an English as a Second Language teacher at both St. James School and Montgomery's First Baptist Church, as a weekly tutor through the Tutoring Program at her church, and as a minister to the children in her Sunday School classes.

A graveside service was held Dec. 9, 2020 at Evergreen Cemetery in Elba,

Ala., at 10 a.m., followed by a memorial celebration service at First Baptist Church of Montgomery at 2 p.m. In lieu of flowers, the family requested donations be made to the English as a Second Language ministry of First Baptist Church of Montgomery, Alabama.

Natalie is reunited in death to her husband, Bobby.

Survivors include her sons: Troy, Tracy, Holmes, and Charles ("Chuck"); her seven grandchildren: Briggs, Colden, Asher, Caleb, Lakin, Addy, and MaryLe; and her brothers: Charles Jones and John Jones.

CHARLIE JACK (JAY) BOLAND

Mr. Charlie Jack (Jay) Boland, age 79, of Chattanooga, Tenn., died Sunday, December 6, 2020, at Alexian Village.

Born in Elba, Ala. (Basin Community) on May 15, 1941 to the late Sidney Henry and Ade Grimes Boland, he attended Kinston High School and later graduated from Delta State College where he coached for a couple of years before moving back to Enterprise. He was a retired Real Estate Agent in Enterprise after many years of service.

Jay was an avid Alabama

Football fan and enjoyed playing basketball with a church league and also enjoyed being around his other brothers and their families at family gatherings.

The family will receive friends from 5-7 pm on Friday, Dec. 18, at Sorrells Funeral Home, Enterprise, Ala. A private family service will be held on Saturday, Dec. 19th.

Survivors include his three children: Jason Boland, Signal Mountain, Tenn., Brad (Nicole) Boland, Mobile, Ala., and Bethany Boland Collins, Lebanon, Ill.; five grandchildren: Jaxson and Sierra Boland, Addison Boland, Jack and Glenn Collins; and two brothers: Bill Boland, New Brockton, Ala., and Jearl Boland, Elba.

ELBA

(Continued from Page One)

over 500 laptops and 60 iPads to the classrooms for students to use.

"Basically, every teacher is about to have a set of laptops in their classroom," he said.

Elba City Schools will break for Christmas holidays next week, and students will return to the school for second semester on Wednesday, Jan. 6th. Teachers are set to return on Monday, Jan. 4th for teacher workdays.

IN LOVING MEMORY OF BILLY P. BERRY Nov. 6, 2020

There are not Enough Words to Fully Express our Heartfelt Thanks for the Sympathy, Love, and Support You have Extended to Our Family During this Time of Loss.

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Heath Wyrosdick, Funeral Director/Embalmer

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Helping Children Cope with the Death of a Sibling

For children, the loss of a brother or sister can be truly traumatic. As the parent, it's important to guide them through the grieving process—helping them to process their feelings in a healthy way, and consoling them without attempting to mute their pain.

The first thing to remember is honesty really is the best policy, and as your child comes to you with challenging questions, it's important to answer them clearly and without needless euphemisms. While using age-appropriate language is essential, it's best to avoid phrases like "went to sleep" or "left us," which can be misconstrued.

It's also best to let the child set the pace. Your job isn't to force your son or daughter to grieve in a particular way, but rather to support them in whatever form their grief takes. So, for example, if your son or daughter does not seem ready to talk about the death, it's okay to wait until they are.

Parents can always be open and honest about their own bereavement. You will want to "be strong" for your kids, but it's okay to let them see you cry or to talk about how you feel sad. This can validate their own feelings, and show them they are not alone in their grief.

Something else that's often helpful is assisting your child in preserving memories. This might mean letting your son or daughter keep some mementos to remember their sibling, or it might mean talking openly about the deceased child's favorite foods, activities, TV shows, etc.

Show your child that it's okay to remember their lost sibling—both with sadness and with fondness.

If you would like a free funeral decisions guide, please email me at hayesfh@hayesfuneralhome.net

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CHURCH NEWS

PASTOR'S CORNER

by Philip Box, Minister

Elba Church of Christ, 715 Troy Road, Elba

How are you at waiting for Christmas?

In the 1960s, psychologist Walter Mischel conducted a famous experiment that has come to be known as "The Marshmallow Test." Groups of 4-years olds were given a marshmallow and told that if they waited 20 minutes before eating it, they would receive another. If they ate it, they would not get any more marshmallows.

Some kids could wait and others could not. The researchers then followed the progress of each child into adolescence and demonstrated that those with the ability to wait were better adjusted and more dependable, and scored an average of 210 points higher on the SATs.

How would you have done on the marshmallow test? Are you willing to wait for things, or do you want your marshmallow right now? I'm pretty sure I would have been sent home for not only eating my marshmallow, but taking the other kids' marshmallows as well. I'm not really good at waiting.

The Bible tells us an interesting story of a man named Simeon who is willing to wait. Luke 2:25-35

"Now there was a man in Jerusalem called Simeon, who was righteous and devout. He was waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Moved by the Spirit, he went into the temple courts. When the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the custom of the Law required, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying: 'Sovereign Lord, as you have promised, you may now dismiss your servant in peace. For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the sight of all nations: a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of your people Israel.' The child's father and mother marveled at what was said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to Mary, his mother: 'This child is destined to cause the falling and rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be spoken against, so that the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed. And a sword will pierce your own soul too.'

He waited, was faithful, and was rewarded. If we wait we too will be rewarded. We have already received the greatest gift man has ever known and we are waiting for his return. Faithfully obeying his will, and waiting.

Bethany Baptist Church invites all to participate in a "Unite in Worship" program on Dec. 12th

Bethany Baptist Church, located at 1805 County Road 533, New Brockton, Ala., will be sponsor a special program, "Unite in Worship," on Saturday, Dec. 12, at 6:30 p.m.

The public is invited to join church members to Unite the Community and the Church through Worship. For additional information, contact Justin Mills at (334) 350-9327.

Church News is due on Mondays!

Share Yours with Us!!

LBWCC receives scholarship funds to help students impacted by COVID

Lurleen B. Wallace Community College was selected by Elucian as a 2020 PATH Scholarship recipient out of more than 160 community college applicants.

PATH (Progress, Accomplishment, Thriving and Hope) awards scholarship funds to institutions which, in turn, deliver the financial support to students experiencing economic hardship due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

LBWCC received scholarship funds which will be distributed to students that have been impacted by COVID-19. These funds will help to cover items such as tuition and fees, transportation, housing, and childcare expenses.

PATH Scholarships were distributed to 38 students after a competitive application process and will provide an additional level of financial assistance for students experiencing hardships.

"The College is honored to be selected as a PATH awardee and pleased to offer financial support that will help our students reach their academic goals," said Jason Jessie, LBWCC Dean of Student Affairs.

"COVID-19 has placed immense pressure on students financially, academically and

personally making it even more difficult for some to achieve their educational dreams," said Laura Ipsen, CEO and President of Elucian. "As a partner to higher education institutions around the world, we have been humbled to see how the community responded in the wake of COVID and are committed to do our part to help students succeed."

Elucian, the leading provider of software and services built to power higher education, has pledged an initial \$1 million to the scholarship fund and distributed \$500,000 to community and technical colleges across the United States in November. The program aims to continue its growth with the support of partners to reach a \$10 million goal in 2021. For more information or to get involved, visit: <https://www.elucian.com/path>.

Attend the Church of Your Choice This and Every Sunday

Round and About With Eria's Daughter

897-3611



Scripture: A Call to Worship and Obedience [Psalm 95:1-11]

Thinking of You! Praying for You.

Family of the late Comer C. Daniels, Estella Lawrence, Alice Musgrove, Rosemary Edwards, Shirley Coleman, Betty Referee, Clarice Fitch, Myron K. Duncan

November Birthdays / Anniversaries

Kanika (KiKi) Belcher 11/26
Cathynette Carpenter Cross 11/26
Paul and Charlotte Whitehurst 11/27 W.A.
Caleb Kelley 11/27
Winston Tyrone Kelley Sr. 11/27
Willie M. Whithurst 11/27
Tocara Stoudemire 11/27
Rev. A.R. Williams 11/27
Audrey Williams Bennett 11/27
Thomas Hammonds Sr. 11/27 (in memory)
William Kevin Tillis 11/28
Jennifer L. Henderson 11/29

The Smartest Kid in the World

For a while, Justin Chapman was the smartest kid in the world. At age three his IQ tested off the charts. At six he scored a record 298-plus. ON the SAT math test he scored a perfect 800. He was taking online high school classes at age five and enrolled at New York's University of Rochester when he was six. Justin was a celebrity, being interviewed by the governor of New York, appearing in a BBC documentary that focused on young geniuses, and speaking at numerous conferences on the unique needs of gifted children.

Mom, of course, was just proud of her boy genius, and specialized in bragging about him, adding fuel to the fire of his fame. But everything changed when, at age eight, he began to exhibit bizarre behavior and was hospitalized for severe mental problems. As evidence of psychological pressure on Justin came to

light, the court took the boy away from his mother. In hopes of regaining custody, she admitted that she had falsified the IQ scores and stolen a neighbor's SAT scores. She said, "It just happened, and I let things get out of control." There is no doubt that Justin is very bright, but his mother's exaggerated and misguided pride brought pathetic results in terms of her son's health and well-being. Eventually, God will judge our pride and bring us down. Worse, we often take others with us! - C.R.B.

Question / Answer Section Q/A for the Week of 12/3/2020

Multiple Choice

Q: Before going on any missionary journey, Barnabas and Saul met for an entire year with a church in what city? (Antioch), (Alexandria), or (Nazareth)
A: Barnabas and Saul met in Antioch. [Acts 11: 25,26]
Q: The chief priests claimed to have no king but whom? (Caesar), (Pilate), or (Jesus)

A: The chief priests say their king was Caesar. [John 19: 15]

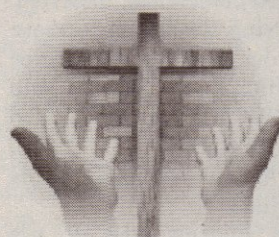
Saying That Makes Sense Be an organ donor, give your heart to God.

Questions for the Week of 12/10/2020

Fill in the Blank

Q: Jesus said that it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a _____ than for a rich man to enter into the _____ of God.
Q: John the Baptist preached that the _____ of _____ was at hand (or near).

Today is a good day! Be grateful.
Eria's Daughter, Sue



WORKERS and EMPLOYERS:
Need help with
Unemployment Claims related to COVID-19?

Contact the Alabama Department of Labor to file claims and get more information.

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Church Directory	
<p>IN HIM WAS LIFE AND THE LIFE WAS THE LIGHT OF MEN</p> <p>ABUNDANT GRACE COMMUNITY CHURCH Rocky Pearce, Pastor Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m. Even. Service . . . 5:00 p.m.</p> <p>ABUNDANT LIFE CHURCH SAMSON, Ala. Richard Thorn Sr., Pastor Morn. Worship . . . 10:30 a.m. Wed. Night Service 7:00 p.m.</p> <p>ALBERTON BAPTIST CHURCH Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m. Even. Worship . . . 6:00 p.m. Wed. Prayer Service 7:00 p.m.</p> <p>BASIN BAPTIST CHURCH Sam Self, Pastor Morn. Worship . . . 10:00 a.m. Wed. Prayer Meet. 6:30 p.m.</p> <p>BETH ELA CHURCH Deborah A. Butler, Pastor Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m. Wed. Bible Study . . . 6:00 p.m.</p> <p>BETHLEHEM BAPTIST CHURCH Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship . . . 11:30 a.m. Wed. Bible Class . . . 6:30 p.m.</p> <p>BETHANY BAPTIST CHURCH Greg Cotter, Pastor Sunday School . . . 9:00 a.m. Morn. Worship . . . 10:00 a.m. Disciple Train . . . 5:30 p.m. Even. Worship . . . 6:30 p.m.</p> <p>BLUFF SPRINGS BAPTIST CHURCH Tom Senn, Pastor Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m. Even. Worship . . . 6:00 p.m. Wed. Prayer Service 6:30 p.m.</p> <p>BROOKLYN BAPTIST CHURCH Robert Davis, Pastor Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m. Even. Worship . . . 6:00 p.m. Wed. Prayer Service 6:30 p.m.</p> <p>CHESTNUT GROVE METHODIST CHURCH Remonia Smith, Pastor Church Service . . . 9:00 a.m. 2nd & 4th Sundays Sunday School . . . 9:00 a.m. 1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m. 2nd & 4th Sundays</p> <p>CORNERSTONE BIBLE CHURCH Larry Mills, Pastor Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m. Sunday Worship . . . 11:00 a.m. Wed. Night . . . 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p>COVENANT COMMUNITY CHURCH Diana White, Pastor Bible Study . . . 9:00 a.m. Fellowship . . . 9:45 a.m. Worship . . . 10:00 a.m. Wed. Night (Youth Real Deal and Children's Activities) . . . 6:00 p.m.</p> <p>DAMASCUS BAPTIST CHURCH Steve Watson, Pastor Sunday School . . . 9:45 a.m. Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m. Even. Worship . . . 6:00 p.m. Wed. Prayer Service 7:00 p.m.</p> <p>DORCAS BAPTIST CHURCH Dale Morgan, Pastor Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship . . . 10:30 a.m. Discipleship Training 5:00 p.m. Sun. 6:00 p.m. Wed. Prayer Meet . . . 7:00 p.m.</p> <p>EAON BAPTIST CHURCH Mark Ward, Pastor Sunday School . . . 10:30 a.m. Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m. Wed. Bible Study . . . 6:15 p.m.</p> <p>ELBA CHURCH OF CHRIST Phillip Box, Minister Bible Study . . . 9:00 a.m. Morn. Worship . . . 10:00 a.m. Even. Service . . . 5:00 p.m. Wed. Bible Study . . . 6:30 p.m.</p> <p>ELBA CHURCH OF GOD David Noble, Pastor Morn. Worship . . . 10:45 a.m. Even. Worship . . . 5:00 a.m.</p> <p>ELBA CHURCH OF GOD OF PROPHECY H.L. Buckner, Pastor Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m. Sat. Service . . . 6:00 p.m. Sunday Night . . . 6:00 p.m. Thurs. Night . . . 7:00 p.m.</p> <p>ELBA DELIVERANCE TABERNACLE Allen Richards, Pastor Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m. Even. Service . . . 5:00 p.m. Wed. Service . . . 7:00 p.m.</p> <p>ELBA 1st ASSEMBLY OF GOD BAPTIST CHURCH Dwight Johnson, Pastor Sunday School . . . 9:30 a.m. Morn. Worship . . . 10:30 a.m. Even. Service . . . 6:00 p.m. Wed. Service . . . 6:30 p.m.</p> <p>ELBA FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH Tom Anderson, Int. Pastor Sunday School . . . 9:00 a.m. Morn. Worship . . . 10:00 a.m. Even. Service . . . 5:00 p.m. Wed. Service . . . 6:30 p.m.</p> <p>ELBA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH Steve Reneau, Pastor Sunday School . . . 9:00 a.m. Morn. Worship . . . 10:00 a.m. Even. Service . . . 6:00 p.m. Wed. Bible Study . . . 6:00 p.m.</p> <p>ELBA ZION BAPTIST CHURCH Lovell Martin, Pastor Sunday School . . . 9:45 a.m. Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m. Even. Service . . . 6:00 p.m.</p>
<p>EVANGELIST TEMPLE CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST Timothy Williams, Pastor Sunday School . . . 10:30 a.m. Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m. Even. Service . . . 6:00 p.m. Wed. Bible Study . . . 6:00 p.m.</p> <p>FAIRVIEW BAPTIST CHURCH Sunday School . . . 9:45 a.m. Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m. Even. Service . . . 5:00 p.m. Wed. Prayer Meet 7:30 p.m.</p> <p>FAITH CHAPEL COMMUNITY CHURCH Phillip Adeock, Pastor Sunday School . . . 10:30 a.m. Sunday Evening . . . 5:00 p.m. Wed. Prayer Service 7:00 p.m.</p> <p>JACK ASSEMBLY OF GOD Matthew Morris, Pastor Sunday School . . . 9:00 a.m. Morn. Worship . . . 10:00 a.m. Even. Service . . . 5:00 p.m. Wed. Prayer Service 7:15 p.m.</p> <p>KINSTON 1st BAPT CHURCH Ben Posey, Pastor Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m. Sunday School . . . 9:00 a.m. Even. Service . . . 5:00 p.m.</p> <p>LIVING WORD CHURCH Derrick Stinson, Pastor Saturday Service . . . 9:45 a.m. Sunday Service . . . 10:30 a.m. Even. Service . . . 6:00 p.m. Wed. Youth Service 6:00 p.m. Thurs. Service . . . 6:00 p.m.</p> <p>LIBERTY CHURCH OF CHRIST Greg Hanchey, Minister Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m. Even. Service . . . 5:00 p.m.</p> <p>LOVE'S WAY CHURCH Charles Jones, Pastor Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m. Sunday Evening . . . 6:00 p.m. Wed. Service . . . 7:00 p.m.</p> <p>MT. CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH J. R. Parks, Pastor Sunday School . . . 9:45 a.m. Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m. 1st & 3rd Sundays</p> <p>MT. GILEAD BAPTIST CHURCH Dewey Emfinger, Pastor Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m. Sunday Evening . . . 5:00 p.m. Wed. Service . . . 5:00 p.m.</p> <p>MT. OLIVE BAPTIST CHURCH Olan Strickland, Pastor Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m. Even. Service . . . 5:00 p.m. Wed. Prayer Meeting 7:00 p.m.</p> <p>MT. ZION BAPTIST CHURCH Kevin Byrd, Pastor Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m. Even. Service . . . 5:00 p.m.</p> <p>MT. VERNON ASSEMBLY OF GOD Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m. Even. Service . . . 5:00 p.m.</p>	<p>OAK GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH Julian Mitchell, Pastor 1st, 4th Sun. Morn. Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.</p> <p>OLD TABERNACLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH Lee Jones, Pastor Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m.</p> <p>PERDUE ASSEMBLY OF GOD Sunday School . . . 9:45 a.m. Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m. Even. Service . . . 6:00 p.m. Wed. Service . . . 7:00 p.m.</p> <p>PINEY GROVE ASSEMBLY OF GOD - SAMSON Terry McCrummen, Pastor Sunday School . . . 9:45 a.m. Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m. Evening Worship . . . 6:00 p.m. Wed. Prayer . . . 7:00 p.m.</p> <p>PRAISE & GLORY WORSHIP CENTER Roy L. Turner, Pastor Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m. Even. Service . . . 5:00 p.m. Wed. Service . . . 6:30 p.m.</p> <p>ROCKY HEAD M.B. CHURCH A. R. Williams, Pastor Sunday School . . . 9:00 a.m. Morn. Worship . . . 10:30 a.m. Wed. Bible Study . . . 6:00 p.m. 2nd & 4th Sundays</p> <p>ROETON BAPTIST CHURCH Sunday School . . . 9:45 a.m. Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m. Even. Service . . . 6:00 p.m. Wed. Prayer Meet. 7:00 p.m.</p> <p>SHADY GROVE AME James Boots, Pastor Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m. Praise Service Mon 5:00 p.m. Wed. Bible Study . . . 6:00 p.m.</p> <p>SHILOH BAPTIST CHURCH Sunday School . . . 9:45 a.m. Morn. Worship . . . 11:00 a.m. Even. Service . . . 4:00 p.m. Wed. Prayer Meet . . . 6:30 p.m.</p> <p>TAYLOR HILL COMMUNITY BAPTIST CHURCH Pastor Bishop E.H. Hill Sunday School . . . 12 noon Even. Service . . . 7:00 p.m. Youth Ser. Mon. . . 7:00 p.m. Wed. Bible Class . . . 7:00 p.m. Fri. Missionary Ser. 7:00 p.m.</p> <p>THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST Pastor Bishop E.H. Hill Sunday School . . . 12 noon Even. Service . . . 7:00 p.m. Youth Ser. Mon. . . 7:00 p.m. Wed. Bible Class . . . 7:00 p.m. Fri. Missionary Ser. 7:00 p.m.</p> <p>THE WAY OF HOLINESS CHURCH, Elba Max Reed, Minister Sunday School . . . 10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship . . . 11:30 a.m. Tuesday Bible Class 7:00 p.m.</p>
<p>To Update Your Church Listing, please call us at (334) 897-2823!</p>	

LIFESTYLES



Paige Weeks, a native of Elba, served as the Grand Marshal of the 2020 Elba Christmas Parade. Weeks currently is a news reporter for WDHN of Dothan, Ala. Weeks was driven by Kenneth Calhoun in the parade held Monday night, Dec. 7, in Elba. The Elba Christmas Parade is hosted by the Elba Chamber of Commerce for the City of Elba. See more photos from the Elba Christmas Parade on Page 10 of today's paper.



Above: All bundled up and ready to watch the Elba Christmas Parade Monday night, Dec. 7, in downtown Elba were Kara Poole with her son, Jace, and Amy (Giles) Sewell. Jace's was excited to get candy from Santa and also to see his step-siblings, Keaton and Stella, and cousin, Liza, march in the parade with the Elba Marching Tiger Band. Right: Bella Bane enjoys watching the Christmas Parade after she herself finished walking in the parade with The Tribe dance and gymnastics studio members.



Funding to bring more renovations to AAC's Barnett Building

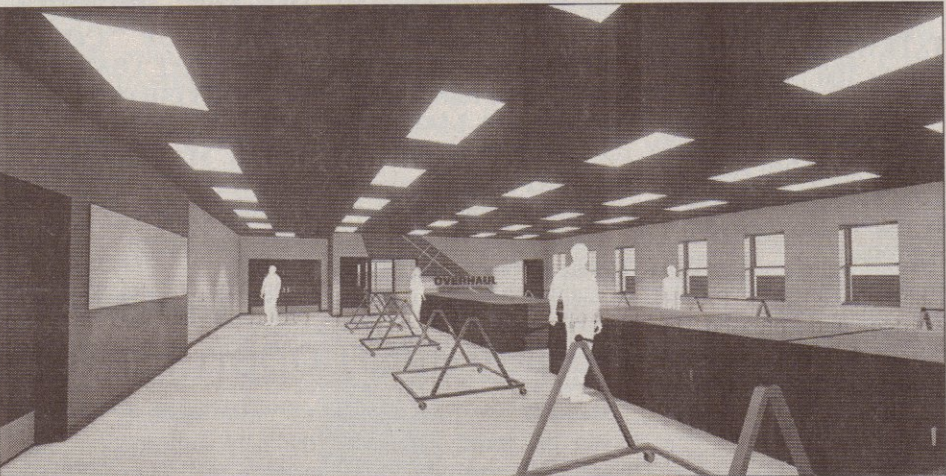
More improvements are coming to the Rufus Barnett Building at the Alabama Aviation College after the building's renovation project was announced by Gov. Kay Ivey as one of 20 to receive state funds.

"Our goal is to provide the best hands-on training to our students in the best learning environments," ESCC President Matt Rodgers said. "Here in the Wiregrass, the Alabama Aviation College plays a critical role in developing a highly-skilled workforce, and with these funds, the College will continue to offer high-quality training to our students in more modernized facilities so we can meet the needs of business and industry leaders. Thank you to our state legislators and to Gov. Kay Ivey for their continued support of Enterprise State Community College and the Alabama Aviation College."

On Thursday, Nov. 19, Ivey awarded almost \$3 million to Public School and College Authority (PSCA) projects around the state. AAC, a unit of Enterprise State Community College, received \$500,000 for its Barnett Building project.

"This is certainly welcome news that Enterprise State and the Alabama Aviation College will receive an additional \$500,000 from the education bond issue to complete work on the renovation of the Barnett Building on the Ozark campus," Rep. Steve Clouse said about the governor's announcement. "This will further improve the infrastructure of the Aviation College, which has made great strides over the past few years. I am proud to be a supporter of Enterprise State and the Alabama Aviation College."

The Rufus Barnett Building was built in 1967. It houses the College's Aviation Maintenance Technology (AMT) classes and a second hangar for the campus. The first phase of the Barnett Building project, which would include \$1.1 million in renovation work, began in August. This phase included work on a new lobby as well as updated testing rooms, classrooms, offices and bathrooms. The project also included a new engine overhaul lab and storage area that can also be used as a classroom. Funds for Phase 1 renovations came from a \$3.5 million



Barnett Building's overhaul lab will be renovated to include a new storage area that can also be used as a classroom.

state grant from Gov. Kay Ivey announced in 2018.

According to AAC Director Stan Smith, the \$500,000 from the PSCA will help the College finish work on the south side of Barnett Building, which contains the classroom and lab for the Turbine Engine Theory class taken by all students seeking an


Airframe and Powerplant certification by the FAA, and upgrades the building's hangar floor.

"I want to thank Governor Ivey and Representative Steve Clouse for supporting our campus in Ozark," Smith said. "These renovations are much overdue. Our programs and students on campus are growing due

to our stellar reputation and the workforce demand for highly-skilled labor. I'm overwhelmed with excitement to give our professional instructors and dedicated students the best learning environment we can offer."

Phase 1 renovations are expected to be completed by Summer 2021. Phase 2 renovations are expected to be completed by mid-Fall 2021.

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NOTICE

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January 1, 2021
and delinquent
February 1, 2021

Penalties will be assessed if license is not
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purchase a license, please
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(334) 897-2333.

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Sally Bane, City Clerk

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12/3/4tpd

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12/10/20 -2tpd

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MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

Default having been made in the payment of the indebtedness secured by that certain mortgage executed by Daniel K. Stowe to The Citizens Bank, dated June 18, 2010 said mortgage recorded in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Coffee County, Alabama, in Book 526, Page 893. Said mortgage was subsequently sold, assigned and transferred to Lakeview Loan Servicing, LLC. Under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in said mortgage, the undersigned, Lakeview Loan Servicing, LLC, will sell at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash, in front of the main entrance of the Coffee County Courthouse, 101 South Edwards Street, Enterprise, AL 36330, Coffee County, Alabama on January 6, 2021, during the legal hours of sale, all of its right, title, and interest in and to the following describe real estate situated in Coffee County, Alabama, to-wit: LOT 45, BLOCK "A", COURTYARD TOWNHOME COMMUNITY, AS SHOWN ON PLAT OF SAME AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 3, PAGE 251, OFFICE OF THE PROBATE, ENTERPRISE, COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA. Property Street Address for Informational Purposes: 89 N Courtyard Way Enterprise AL 36330 Said property will be sold "AS IS". NO REPRESENTATION OR WARRANTY, EXPRESSED OR IMPLIED, IS MADE AS TO THE TITLE OF SAID PROPERTY. Said property is subject to any title deficiencies including but not limited to: any outstanding ad valorem taxes - including taxes which are a lien but not yet due and payable, any matters which might be disclosed by an accurate survey and inspection of the property, any assessments liens, encumbrances, zoning ordinances, restrictions, covenants, and matters of record superior to the Mortgage first set out above. Said property will be sold subject to the right of redemption of all parties entitled thereto. Alabama law gives some persons who have an interest in property the right to redeem the property under certain circumstances. Programs may also exist that help persons avoid or delay the foreclosure process. An attorney should be consulted to help you understand the rights and programs as a part of the foreclosure process. This sale will be made for the purpose of paying the same and all expenses of this sale, as provided in said Mortgage and by Alabama law. This sale is subject to postponement or cancellation. **This is an attempt to collect a debt and any information obtained may be used for that purpose.** Lakeview Loan Servicing, LLC, Mortgagee or Transferee Cory Sims ALAW One Independence Plaza, Suite 416 Birmingham, AL 35209 Attorney for Mortgagee/Transferee 20-012131 A-4728127 12/10/2020, 12/17/2020, 12/24/2020

(FATHER)

NOTICE OF TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS ACTION

Notice to: the unknown father, of R.M.M. dob 03/02/2020, whose whereabouts are unknown, must answer the Coffee County Department of Human Resources' petition for Termination of Parental Rights and other relief by the 16th day of January, 2021, or, thereafter, a judgment by default may be rendered against him in Case No. 19 JU 2020-12.02, in the Juvenile Court of Coffee County, Alabama, Elba Division. A final hearing has not been set in this matter.

Done this, the 20th day of November, 2020.

Hon. Amy Reeves, Clerk of the Circuit
230 P Court Avenue
Elba, Alabama 36323
Juvenile Court of Coffee County, Alabama, Elba Division.David M. White
Attorney for CCDHR
P.O. Box 311412
Enterprise, Alabama 36331

11/26, 12/3, 10 & 17-chg.

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Sunday

IN THE JUVENILE COURT OF COFFE COUNTY, ALABAMA ELBA DIVISION

IN THE MATTER OF R.M.M., A minor child d/o/b 03/02/2020.

CASE NO. JU 2020-12.02

Registration open for spring at ESCC

Students can now register for the spring semester, which will include some additional on-campus class options, at Enterprise State Community College and the Alabama Aviation College.

"For the fall semester, we had to adapt many of our classes for a virtual environment to both address the restrictions presented by COVID-19 and continue to meet the educational needs of our students," ESCC Vice President and Dean of Instruction Danny Long said. "For the spring, our faculty and staff once again came together to create a strong class schedule. We made sure that we kept our focus on both the quality of the education being offered and the safety of our students, faculty and staff, so while we have added just a few additional courses that offer face-to-face instruction, we will continue to offer many online and hybrid class options."

Spring classes at ESCC and AAC will be similar to the Fall 2020 semester class schedule. Face-to-face instruction will be offered on the Enterprise campus as well as reduced-capacity hybrid and virtual synchronous classes, which are virtual classes held at scheduled class times. At AAC, students will continue to follow staggered schedules and a modified block system. Classes will be held for seven hours a day Monday through Thursday during two sessions throughout the semester: a 10-week session and a five-week session.

"As always, we will continue to do everything we can support our students as they learn in a more virtual environment," Long said. "For our online classes, we understand that online learning is not the easiest experience. Even now, online classes are something that students are getting used to. To help with that, we have transitioned many of our student services, like tutoring through Boll Weevil Central, online

so those students can get the help and support they need in their classes. There may also be students with technology needs, such as needing a laptop to complete their online work. To help, ESCC has a laptop loaner program for those students to borrow computers for their online classes."

The College will have an additional 260 laptops available to students in the spring. A request form for the program can be found at esc.edu/laptop.

Registration opened for all students on Nov. 9. Students can meet with their advisor to receive assistance with registration or register for classes through their MyESCC account. Extended hours for registration will also be held on Saturday, Dec. 12, from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Students who have not already planned ahead for the spring semester can visit esc.edu/registration to see class schedules and request assistance from an advisor. Spring classes start Jan. 13.

"Many of our students and those in our community have faced challenges this year," ESCC President Matt Rodgers said. "We don't want anyone to have to put their education on hold, so for any person who wants to take those next steps toward a great degree or career, we will work with them to eliminate those hurdles."

"Despite challenges from the current pandemic, we were one of three Alabama community colleges to see increased fall enrollment. We want to continue this trend in the spring of meeting the education and training needs of more students and our community. Don't wait to register. Our on-campus classes are filling up fast, but no matter the class format, I know that our spring courses will continue to offer the rigor of instruction our students need, whether they meet with their instructors face to face or virtually."

"I am proud of our stu-

dents, faculty and staff for their hard work and dedication as we have transitioned to various modes of instruction in order to offer our students the best and safest options for their education and training."

In addition to registering for classes, students can prepare for the spring semester by applying for financial assistance. Students who wish to see their eligibility for federal grants and loans can complete the FAFSA at studentaid.gov.Applicants must use their 2018 tax information for the 2020-21 FAFSA. The ESCC/AAC school code for the FAFSA is 001015. More information about financial aid can be found at esc.edu/financialaid. The 2021-22 FAFSA is also open for students who wish to complete an application for the next academic year.

For students receiving face-to-face instruction in the spring, attendance and schedules will comply with the College's COVID-19 protocols for social distancing, face coverings, and additional sanitation measures. Students will also be required to complete the College's COVID-19 Canvas course and sign a COVID-19 waiver before coming to class.

As with the Enterprise campus, students taking classes on the Ozark campus will be required to follow the College's COVID-19 protocols and complete all COVID-19 waiver forms.

"The well-being of our students and employees continues to be our top priority at this time," Rodgers said. "We want our students to receive the best education and training in the safest manner possible. I commend all the students, faculty and staff for practicing our safety protocols and pre-screening at home before coming to campus, and I encourage everyone to continue with these safety practices so that we can have a great spring semester."

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SPORTS NEWS

Views From

The Pressbox

By Ricky Mularz, Sports Editor

Our grandson Lawson is still enjoying his afternoon biscuits, but didn't even want to taste some homemade spaghetti one night last week after his Nanny cooked up a big pot. He did find some microwave mac and cheese to hold him over until his Mom made it home. However, I guess it is past time for us to at least make him taste other foods before he gets totally spoiled.

For what it is worth....

*** *The start of the high school basketball season* has been delayed for weeks at Elba High and other schools in the area, but is expected to get jump started this week with lots of action and a tournament in Brantley. I know the players and coaches are more than ready to hit the court and hopefully this will be the week things settle down, at least for a little while.

*** *The Alabama High School Athletic Association* wrapped up its high school football season last week with the 'Super 7' state championship games in Tuscaloosa, and as always it was a wild three days as the state crowned its seven state champions. In a very brief recap: (7A) Thompson scored 10 points in the final 18-seconds of the game to escape with an amazing 29-28 win over Auburn, which had the ball at the Thompson 20-yardline with a 28-19 lead with one minute left on the clock, only to self-destruct; (6A) Pinson Valley won its third 6A crown in the past four years with a come-from-behind 23-13 win over Spanish Fort to give former Alabama standout Sam Shade a state title in his first season at the helm at Pinson Valley and Crimson Tide commit Ga'Quincy McKinstry pulled in a long TD pass to spark the rally as both enjoyed their trip to Bryant-Denny Stadium ; (5A) St. Paul's rallied from a 21-10 third quarter deficit and held the ball for 30 straight plays on two possessions after a score and a successful on-sides kick to defeat Pleasant Grove 29-21, in a game in which the Saints held on to the ball for almost twenty minutes in the second half to keep the high-scoring Pleasant Grove offense off the field; (4A) Handley tried to make it hard for itself during a big 35-20 state title win over Gordo as it had to overcome two turnovers in the endzone on an interception and a fumble, but after a regular season that included eight straight road games and four cancelled games it proved to be just another hurdle the Tigers overcame as they claimed their second title in the past four years ; (3A) Fyffe rallied from a 16-0 first half deficit to claim its third straight state title with a 21-16 win over Montgomery Catholic, which moved the ball at will in the first half, but had the ball only fifteen plays in the entire second half against the Red Devils ball-control offensive attack; (2A) Mars Hill Bible claimed its second state title in the last three years and rode the play of a freshman quarterback in a lopsided 56-14 win over outmatched Abbeville, in a game in which Mars Hill rushed for 299 yards and passed for 222 yards and after a scoreless first quarter pulled away to open up a 42-0 third quarter advantage ; (1A) Linden's defense scored touchdowns on consecutive plays from scrimmage in the third quarter and limited Pickens County to negative yards rushing as the Patriots claimed their first-ever state title with a 32-8 win.

*** *The total number of bowl games* that have now decided to cancel this year's games grew to ten last week when the Sun Bowl chose to sit out the post-season. The Sun Bowl and the Holiday Bowl are the biggest named bowls to sit it out, and now the first bowl game that will be played will be the Tropical Smoothie Café Frisco Bowl set for Dec. 10. Montgomery will host two bowl games this year with the Montgomery Bowl set for Dec. 23 and the Camellia Bowl set for Dec. 25, while fans in Alabama that want to attend a bowl game can also head to Mobile on Dec. 26 for the Lending Tree Bowl, or head up to Birmingham on Jan. 1 for the Ticket Smart Birmingham Bowl. Florida will host a total of nine post-season games, followed by Texas with six games. Hey, the crazy year only gets crazier!

*** *The big news last week in the NBA* was LeBron James signing a two-year, \$85 million contract extension with the Lakers. James, who will turn 36 later this month, could have become a free agent next summer, but took the money and will now remain in Los Angeles through the end of the his 20th season in the league. The new deal means James will make \$39 million this season, \$41 million the next season and \$44 million in the final year of the contract. He can probably make more money playing for the Lakers than he could owning the team.

*** *Ye Ole Polish Prognosticator dropped by* over the weekend to pass along his best wishes for the holidays and made sure I realized he had closed the season with a perfect 7-0 record in the state finals. The local guesspert complained a lot about how difficult a season it was to correctly predict games, but through sixteen weeks hit on 284 of his 324 picks, which ain't too shabby. He hinted he may hang it up after the banner year. However, I'm betting that when the season kicks off next year he will still be playing mind games with the fans and making his picks.

Softball trio sign scholarships



BLACKMON SIGNS.... Present to help celebrate the signing of New Brockton's Bailey Blackmon were (l-r) parents Andy and Monica Blackmon, signee Bailey Blackmon and sister Anna Blackmon.

Area trio to continue careers

The high school softball season may still be a couple of months away. However, a trio of prep standouts from the area made headlines recently when they signed scholarships to continue their careers at the college level after graduation.

The talented trio included Elba Lady Tiger Jaylyn Baker, who signed with Coastal Alabama Community College - East, in Brewton, Alabama; and, Brantley Lady Bulldog Lauren Hudson, who signed with Lurleen B. Wallace Community College, in Andalusia, Alabama.

Baker, an outfielder, has been a mainstay in the Lady Tigers lineup since transferring from Zion Chapel High School after her freshman season, and has been a standout at both the plate and in the field throughout her career.

"It is great," stated Baker, in a published interview following her signing. "I believe that hard work will get you just about anywhere you want to go and it feels good to accomplish something I have worked so hard at for the last several years. My defense in the outfield is what really got me the most attention from the coaches at Gulf Coast. I read the ball well off the bat and am

willing to lay out to make a catch or a stop."

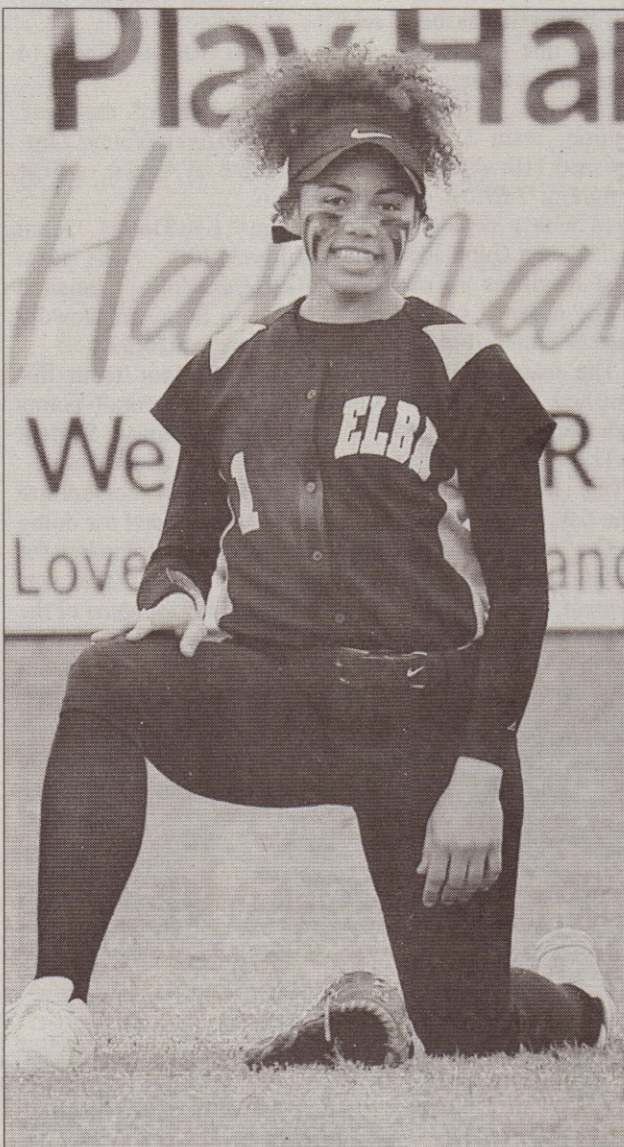
"Jaylyn is very athletic," said Elba softball coach William Moguel. "She is over six feet tall and moves really well. In the outfield she never lets a ball get in the gap and she is willing to sell out to make a catch or block a ball. She is also a power hitter at the plate, but is willing to slap if needed and has really good speed on the bases. She is the total package."

Blackmon, a pitcher and an infielder, has been a varsity player for the Lady Gamecocks since the eighth grade and has improved every season. During her career at New Brockton, Blackmon has batted .368 with four home runs to be a threat the plate, and last year in the shortened season batted .500 with one home run and struck out 17 batters in only 12 innings of work. In her career inside the circle as a pitcher, she has tossed over 169 innings and recorded 153 strikeouts.

"When I got to Brewton and visited the campus at Coastal I knew it was the place for me," said Blackmon, in a recent published interview. "I loved the atmosphere there and the city is such a beautiful place. I also have relatives there, which will help since I will be away from home and living in an apartment for the first time. I like the coaches at Coastal



HUDSON SIGNS It was smiles all around recently at the signing ceremony for Lauren Hudson. Pictured at the signing are (l-r) father, Troy Hudson, Hudson and mother Rena Driggers Hudson.



BAKER SIGNS ... Elba Lady Tiger Jaylyn Baker will take her talents across the state line after signing with Gulf Coast State College, in Panama City, Florida.

and feel like I can get better as an all-around player during the next two years. Hopefully this will be the start of my college career and I will be able to play at a four-year college after my two years at Brewton."

"Bailey has stepped up and has been everything a high school coach can ask for," stated New Brockton softball coach Wade Hussey. "She is an outstanding high school softball player and will be a fantastic college player."

Hudson, a two-time All-State performer as one of the state's top pitchers, stepped into the circle for the talented Lady Bulldogs and helped lead the team to a

state title in her sophomore year. In the shortened 2020 season, Hudson compiled a perfect 7-0 record with 51 strikeouts in 38 innings of work and posted a .74 earned run average. In her first season as the team's #1 pitcher in 2019, Hudson posted a 30-8 record with 228 strikeouts in 241 innings inside the circle and recorded a 2.73 earned run average. Hudson is also a solid performer at the plate, with a career batting average of .324.

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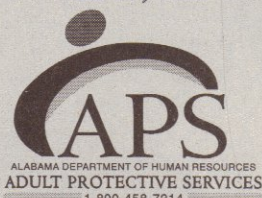
SCOREBOARD

Tuesday, Dec. 1 (Boys) Zion Chapel 46 NB 36 (Girls) Zion Chapel 30 NB 8	Methodist 57 (Girls) Wicksburg 50 ZC 14 Northside Methodist 56 New Brockton 10
Thursday, Dec. 3 (Boys) Kinston 59 Red Level 52 Wicksburg 86 ZC 41 New Brockton 65 Northside	Friday, Dec. 4 (Boys) Zion Chapel 56 NB 48 (Girls) Zion Chapel 31 NB 11

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*This project was supported by Subgrant #15-VI-VS-050 awarded by the Law Enforcement/Traffic Safety Division of ADECA and the U.S. Department of Justice. The opinions, findings and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this publication/program/exhibition are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Department of Justice or grant-making component.

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OUTDOORS

On Wiregrass Student Angler Trail ZC bass anglers finish season at Lake Eufaula

The ZC Bass Team fished its final tournament for this season on the Wiregrass Student Angler Trail. The tournament was at Lake Eufaula, a 45,000-acre impoundment on the Chattahoochee River.

As Greg McCain quoted Shane Powell, "A basic premise of Lake Eufaula fishing is that some bass can always be caught shallow and some can always be caught deep; it is just a matter of being at the right place at the right time,"

Alabama Outdoor News.

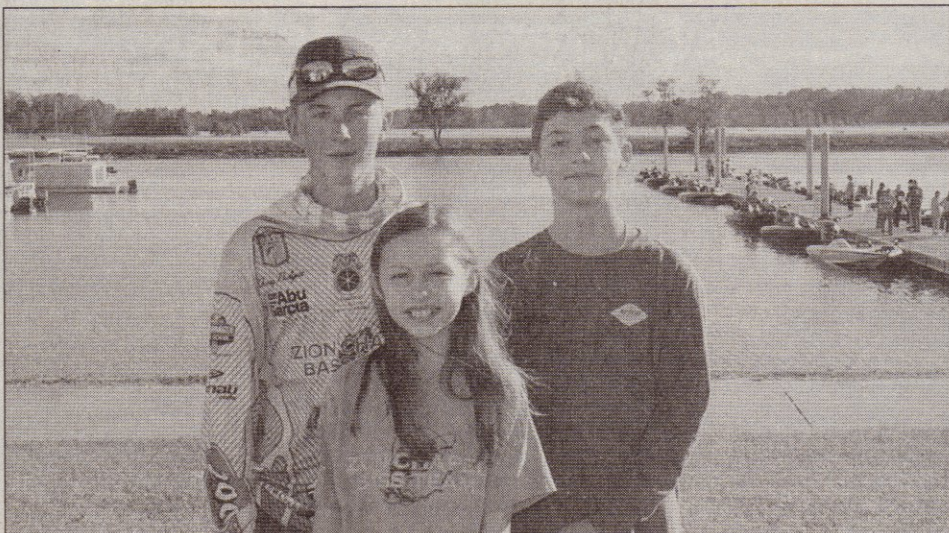
For many of the ZC anglers, this was not their day. Most were disappointed, but as it has been said before that this is the way tournament fishing goes.

Out of the 74 boats participating, team Dowdy/Free finished 11th with three fish weighing 7.07lbs; one was dead with a penalty of .25 lbs. Kaden Cupp accompanied Kevin as an observer in the absence of his team partner Landra Free.

The team of Lee/DeVos finished 22nd with three fish weighing 4.26 lbs.

The team FitzGerald/Johns finished 35th with one fish weighing 2.09 lbs.

The team of Padgett/Young, going into the tournament in second place in angler of the year points, finished 48th for the day



Zion Chapel bass angler Avery Padgett was joined by his cousins Brodie and Olivia Stinson for the weigh-in for the tournament held recently at Lake Eufaula. The Zion Chapel team members had a great support group for this event.

with one fish weighing 1.14 lbs.

For Angler of the Year, team Padgett/Young finished 6th in Angler of Year points.

The Lee/DeVos team finished 10th. The team FitzGerald/Johns finished 17th and the team Dowdy/Free finished 26th.

The ZC Bass Team finished 4th in overall points for the Wiregrass Student Angler Team of the Year.

These young anglers are to be commended for doing so well having competed for only two years. This was the first year for some of the team members.

As always, the team

appreciates the support of their families, community, and sponsors. Several guests showed up for the weigh-in at Lake Point Resort in Eufaula.

The team was fortunate to have Mark FitzGerald to cook for them all weekend. He worked diligently keeping their bellies full and helping them celebrate their coach, Dana Haley's birthday.

The anglers were at the campground from Thursday until Sunday. They spent a couple of days pre-fishing, which was productive, but it did not carry over until tournament time. Some

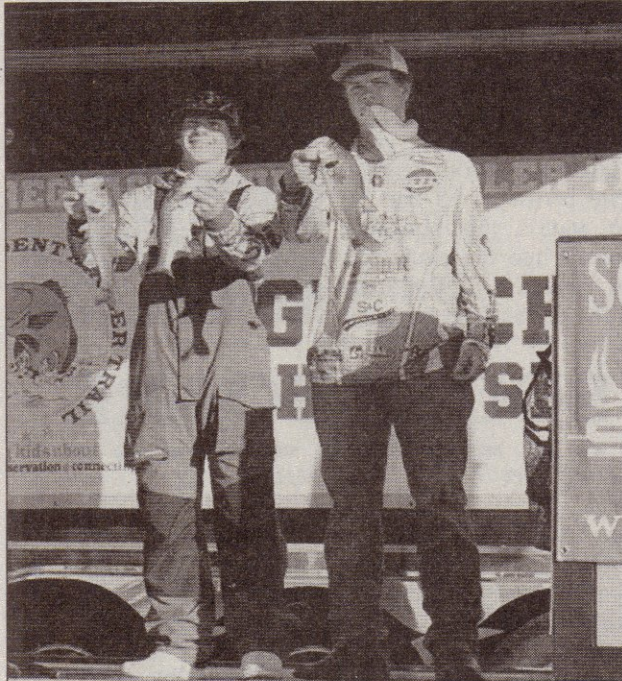
anglers stayed over until Sunday to meet and observe the university teams competing in a tournament. The University of Alabama, Auburn University, Troy University, and the University of Montevallo participated.

The ZC Bass Team have registered and are finalizing their plans for their next tournament Sunday, Dec. 13, at Lake Martin. This will be the first tournament on the East Alabama High School Bass Trail.

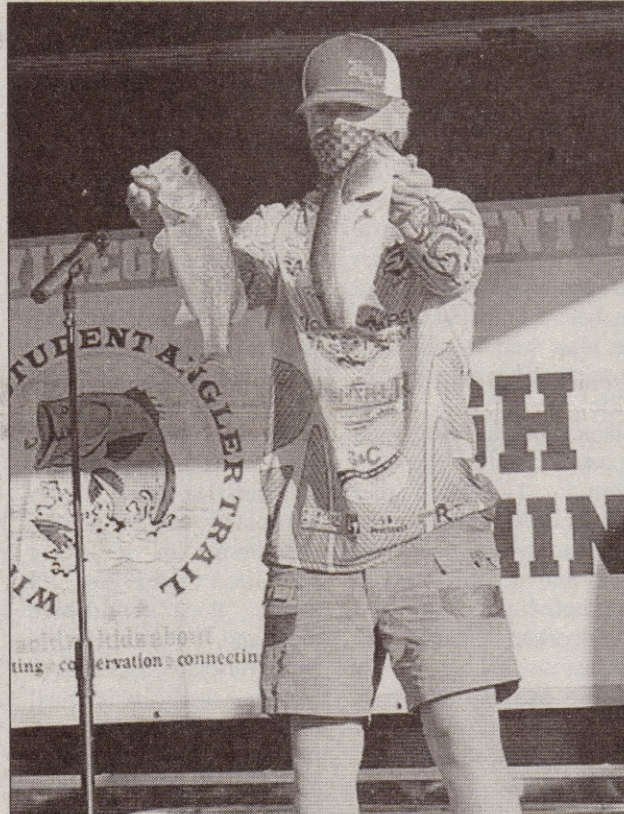
Due to COVID-19 and the CDC Guidelines, their plans can be changed or scratched at the last hour.



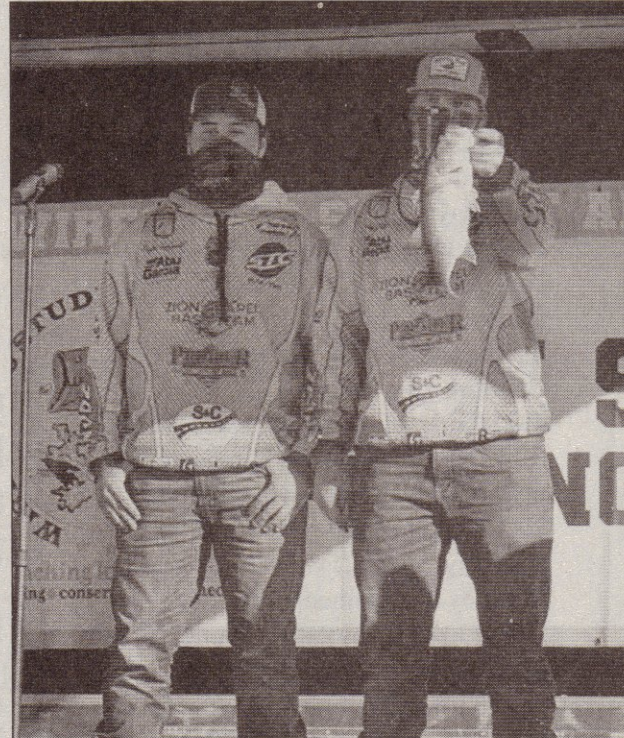
Team Padgett/Young with captain Kyle Padgett. They were in second place in Angler of Year points going into tournament; they finished in 6th place in Angler of Year points.



Team Lee/DeVos who finished 22nd in tournament and 10th place in Angler of Year points.



Kevin Dowdy finished in 11th place out of 74 boats at the Eufaula tournament.



Team FitzGerald/Johns finished 35th in tournament held recently at Lake Eufaula.

HUNTING SPOTLIGHT



Levi Daniels, age 9, killed his first deer Thursday, Dec. 3, while hunting with his dad, Claude Daniels, on family property. The deer weighed in at 65 pounds. This hunting trip created memories both dad and son will enjoy forever, and each returned home that day with big smiles on their faces. The photo was taken by Levi's mom, Marsha.



Joseph Cline killed this doe on a hunt for people with special needs that was sponsored by Ironman Outdoor Ministries and hosted by Brunson Farms in Elba. Joseph was proud to donate the meat from his deer to DoeNation Outdoors to be distributed to area food banks and help feed those in need. Pictured with Joseph is Matt Brunson.

Venison recipes perfect for holidays

by David Rainer,
Alabama Department of
Conservation and Natural
Resources

With Alabama's white-tailed deer season in full swing, it's probably time to clean out last year's harvest to make room for fresh venison.

Venison Lasagna

1½ pounds ground venison
1 can/jar prepared spaghetti sauce (or make it with Lawry's Spaghetti Sauce Mix, which is what my mom did)
1½ tablespoons of Italian seasoning
8 lasagna noodles, cooked, divided
1 cup cottage cheese, divided
3 cups mozzarella cheese, divided
½ cup grated parmesan cheese
Brown meat (if no fat was added to the ground venison, you'll need about ¼ cup of oil in the skillet to prevent sticking) and drain. Add spaghetti sauce and Italian seasoning and cook 5 minutes. My Italian buddies would scoff at using a prepared spaghetti sauce, so, by all means, make your own if you have the time. We particularly liked the taste of Lawry's growing up, but use whatever you like.

Layer 4 strips of the cooked lasagna noodles on bottom of rectangular Pyrex baking dish. Spoon on half of the meat sauce mixture and spread evenly. Spread ½ cup of cottage cheese for the next layer, followed by 1½ cups of mozzarella. Add another layer of the ingredients, and then top by sprinkling with the parmesan cheese.

Bake in 350-degree oven for 30 minutes. Serves 6-8.

My go-to venison recipe that has been served to

groups of a half-dozen to more than 30 also involves ground venison. To make enough for 30, you need a BIG pot.

Venison Chili

1/4 cup olive oil
2 large cloves garlic, minced
4 large onions, chopped
2 large green bell peppers, chopped (optional, my girls don't like green bell peppers)
4 pounds ground venison
3-4 cans diced tomatoes
2 6-ounce cans of tomato paste
1/4 to 1/3 cup chili powder
1 tablespoon salt
4 16-ounce cans of kidney beans
1-3 dashes of cayenne pepper
1-3 dashes of garlic salt
2 bay leaves
1 teaspoon liquid crab boil (Don't scoff until you've tried it—adds some pizzazz that consumers can't identify)
Heat oil in a large stock pot with heavy bottom, and add garlic, onions and peppers. Cook until tender. Add venison and brown for 10 minutes over medium heat. Add tomatoes, tomato paste, chili powder, salt, kidney beans, cayenne pepper and garlic salt. Mix together and then add bay leaves. Bring to boil and then simmer for 2-3 hours. Serves 10-12.

Another standard around the Rainer household involved tenderized venison.

See RECIPE, Page 9

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Elba High School Band presents Christmas concert on downtown square

The Elba High School Band presented its annual Christmas Concert, under the stars, Monday night, Dec. 7, as the band performed on the square in downtown Elba. Also performing was the elementary school band.

The concert was held outdoors this year due to COVID-19 safety concerns and was held in conjunction with Elba's annual Christmas Parade. The bands played several holiday classics for the rather large crowd that stayed after the parade to enjoy the music.



Merry Christmas to All!



RECIPE

Continued from Page 8

Smothered Country-Fried Venison Steaks

2 pounds cubed venison steaks (1/2- to 3/4-inch cuts)
Milk (whole or 2%)
2 cups all-purpose flour, divided
Seasoned salt and black pepper to taste
1/4 cup bacon grease or oil (olive or vegetable), depending on how healthy you're eating
2 cups water
1 cup coffee
1 cup extra-long-grain rice

If the venison steaks haven't been run through a cuber/tenderizer several times, then pound each piece with a meat mallet. Soak venison steaks in cold water for several hours, changing the water several times to soak out the blood. Drain steaks well, dip in milk (whole or 2 %) and dredge in 1 cup flour with seasoned salt and pepper already mixed in. Brown in oil in large skillet. (You can stop right there and enjoy, or you can go ahead and make the gravy.) Take remaining cup of flour and add to skillet, stirring constantly until desired color is achieved, and then add water and coffee (mixed) to desired thickness. Put steaks in Crock-Pot, pour gravy over the top and simmer on low.

While the venison is simmering, turn to the rice. When the rice is done, the venison will be ready. Spoon the venison and gravy over rice. Serves 6-8.

One of the many things that COVID-19 has taken from those who love to eat wild game is the opportunity to participate in one of the Alabama Wildlife Federation's (AWF) Wild Game Cook-Offs. Some of the best food I've ever tasted has been at these events.

If I were ever to appear on Food Network's "The Best Thing I Ever Ate" in a wild game category, I would highlight the dish that Beth Strickland prepared as part of the Middle Bay Boat Company team during the AWF Gulf Coast Cook-Off. This dish takes a little effort but is well worth it.

Stuffed Tenderloin with Whiskey Beurre Blanc
Venison tenderloin (back-

strap)

Marinade:

1 cup Italian dressing
1 tablespoon Worcestershire sauce
1 tablespoon minced onion
1 teaspoon garlic
1/2 teaspoon pepper

Stuffing:

1 asparagus bundle, trimmed
1 red bell pepper, thinly sliced
8 tablespoons butter
Steak dry rub seasoning of your choice
6 ounces feta cheese
Package of sliced prosciutto to Bamboo skewers

Sauce:
8 tablespoons butter
1 sweet onion, chopped
1/4 teaspoon garlic
1 cup Jim Beam Whiskey
1 cup beef broth
1 cup heavy cream
Dash of salt
Dash of pepper
Flour (optional)

Mix all marinade ingredients together and pour on the tenderloin (backstrap) in a large Ziploc bag. Refrigerate the tenderloin for 2-3 hours.

After the tenderloin is marinated, start preparing the stuffing. Trim the asparagus. Slice the red bell pepper into thin strips. Melt the butter in a large skillet on medium heat. Add asparagus and cook for 8-10 minutes until slightly tender. Remove the asparagus and add the bell pepper to the same melted butter. Cook on medium heat for 8-10 minutes until the bell pepper is slightly tender.

Prep the tenderloin by butterfly lengthwise; be sure not to cut all the way through the meat. Cut the tenderloin into 3- to 4-inch sections. Depending on the size, this should yield 5-8 pieces. Dust each section with the steak seasoning. Use a Jaccard meat tenderizer to make the meat more pliable for stuffing. Place a spoonful of feta, 3 stalks of asparagus and 3-4 strips of red bell pepper in each section. Wrap the meat so that the feta is secure and the asparagus sticks out each end. Wrap in 2-3 slices of prosciutto, and secure with skewers. In a clean pan, prepare the sauce by caramelizing onions and garlic in butter on medium-high heat. Turn the heat down. Add

the whiskey and allow it to simmer a few minutes until the alcohol evaporates. Then add the beef broth and continue to simmer a few minutes while whisking. Continue to whisk while adding in the cream. Dash with salt and pepper, and let the sauce simmer and bubble on low, continuing to whisk gradually, while grilling the meat. If sauce is too runny add a little flour to thicken. Heat your grill to a medium heat. Grill each side 5-10 minutes, until the prosciutto is slightly crisp. Remove and let sit for 5 minutes. Remove skewers, cut in half and drizzle sauce on top to serve.

Of course, none of the venison dishes will be worth eating if the deer is not properly cared for after harvesting. The best way to ensure top-quality venison is prompt action in the field, whether the deer ends up at home or at the professional processor.

Obviously, the sooner the deer can be cleaned and gutted, the better. After you skin the deer, remove the area around the wound with bloodshot flesh. Rinse the carcass down and remove any hair or debris.

Then it's time to get the deer cooled down as quickly as possible, but it's not as simple as throwing the quartered deer on top of a bag of ice. To get the deer cooled down properly, put a layer of ice on the bottom of the ice chest, followed by the deer meat, followed by another layer of ice. Keep the ice chest drain open to let the water flow out.

Aging venison helps the flavor and helps to tenderize the meat when done correctly. Seven days is about the maximum time for deer to age. If you've got a walk-in cooler where you can hang the deer, that is the best option. However, a well-iced cooler will work, just remember to keep the venison completely covered in ice the whole time. If the meat gets exposed to the air and warms to above 40 degrees, bacteria starts to grow.

Take care of your deer and enjoy the fruits of your harvest.



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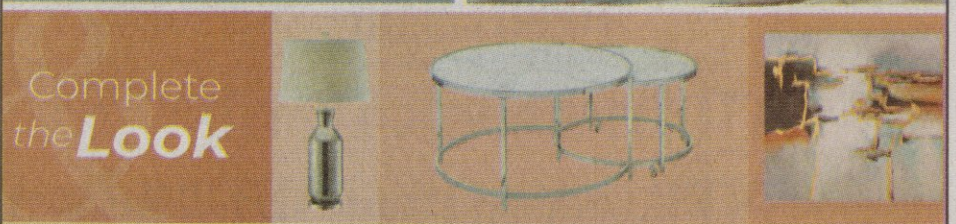
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